



# Building national systems for adaptation **Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning** in the context of global processes

Supporting monitoring, evaluation and learning processes for climate resilient  
development

# Why MEL of adaptation?

- **Monitoring:** Collecting information on specified parameters to track the progress of adaptation actions and adaptation objectives.
- **Evaluation:** Assessing adaptation actions to determine their effectiveness, impact, efficiency and sustainability and the extent to which they have fulfilled specific objectives.
- **Learning:** Exploring what has worked and what has not; which adaptation actions have led to better development outcomes despite worsening climate hazards; which have not and why

## Benefits of investing in MEL systems



# Different scales for MEL



## Global level

Paris Agreement and UNFCCC

- GGA and GST
- The enhanced transparency framework
- Regular updates, country reports (Article 7.10)
- IPCC reports

Measure the collective process of adaptation

- Strengthen resilience and Adaptive capacity and assess Vulnerabilities

## National level

National level planning and budgeting  
National Programmes

National Adaptation Plan

## Sector level

Sectoral planning and budgeting  
Sector-specific programmes

Sectorial Strategies

## Local level

Sub-national/municipal level planning and budgeting  
Programmes and projects

Impact evaluation of local adaptation

# Key questions to help guide adaptation MEL



- How to leverage existing reporting mechanisms to promote coherence?
  - What am I already measuring nationally and internationally (linkages)?
  - What is useful?
- How can bottom-up approaches based on existing national indicators be aggregated globally?
- What are elements of data infrastructure and capacity building program to implement the work?
  - How do I make it work?
- How can I capture the full story (local knowledge, gender, transformative action)?

# International processes – synergies in adaptation MEL



- Sustainable Development Goals
- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Enhanced Transparency Framework
- Global Goal on Adaptation
- Global Stocktake
- Nationally Determined Contributions
- National Adaptation Plans

# Challenges



## Global

- Lack of global frameworks on adaptation - *SDGs and Sendai Framework have these*
- Lack of global datasets or a global system for adaptation monitoring
- Differing definitions of adaptation effectiveness

## National

- Lack of integration of adaptation indicators in national systems of monitoring
- Lack of datasets and engagement of national statistical and other information sources/information providers
- Cost considerations - surveys and other data gathering fs are costly
- Methodologically complex/cross sectoral
- Project level and not systems level

## Local

- Local governments and CBOs are engaged not at systems level but at project levels
- Aggregation of traditional knowledge is challenging

# Considerations for national MEL



- Keep it simple: *measure progress with set of 'core indicators' rather than attempting to identify progress on individual measures*
- Use what already exists: *build on existing system to avoid duplication of reporting burden*
- Participatory approach: *distributed responsibilities for reporting of relevant data as required*
  - *Can be atop knowledge platforms being supported under NAPs*

# Examples of country MEL systems

## Benin – Cross sectoral focus

- ✓ M&E indicators in sectoral adaptation plans
- ✓ Participatory process: taking advantage of workshops planned for the implementation of the NAP project (4 workshops in total) including M&E
- ✓ Technical capacity building for municipalities on the management and monitoring-evaluation of climate projects; technical capacities of municipal planners and environmentalists in the formulation of climate actions, budgeting in their planning documents and their monitoring and evaluation

## Liberia – Focus on climate investment tracking

- ✓ Developed sectoral M&E indicators; the M&E system was proposed in the document *Monitoring System for Tracking Climate Finance* (2010).
- ✓ The system is primarily for monitoring and reporting or tracking climate finance and a set of indicators for sectoral adaptation.
- ✓ The document mentions a framework for the NAP itself but whether there will be any alignment a larger framework or system.

## Armenia – Sector specific focus

- **Indicators and criteria for review and monitoring process on climate change adaptation developed for (province) level.** Examples of sectoral indicators:
- Assessment of the efficiency of water reservoir (net storage volume) and water losses
  - Water accessibility; water losses
  - Number of consulting and training activities
  - Increase in yield

## Democratic Republic of the Congo - Focus on evaluating outcomes of

- Developed a **national level M&E based on relevant CCA indicators, projected results, and impact indicators** and sub-national indicators (for two *Provincial Development Plans*).
- Indicators focus on **evaluating the outcomes of adaptation measures and evaluate number of direct beneficiaries of adaptation actions** (disaggregated by sex, age, and province), population adopting CCA technologies and type and extent of strengthened or better managed assets to face the impacts of CC (ha of land, km of roads and coastal areas).
- **Integrated into the *National Development Plan M&E and SDG's monitoring system*** (through Ministry of Planning and the SDG Observatory) and the overall CC MRV system

**THERE'S NO ONE SIZE-FITS ALL**



# Opportunities



- NAP, NDC and SDGs provide opportunities for integrated M&E of climate resilient development
- GGA and GST can foster feedback between global and national systems
- Potential to demonstrate positive results to build support for funding
- Build the ‘business case’ for adaptation
- Contributions to other development goals
- Co-benefits between adaptation and mitigation
- Improve understanding of effectiveness
- Potential to ascertain reduced vulnerability, increased resilience
- Context specific nature – design of systems fit for purpose
- Opportunity for engaging NSOs, academia on adaptation research and M&E, including through LLA discussions

# Conclusions



- Purpose of adaptation MEL to gauge
  - Enhanced adaptive capacity
  - Strengthened resilience
  - Reduced vulnerability
- Parallel, redundant M&E processes add burden to constrained capacity in countries
- Climate policies and strategic planning processes (SDG, DRR) are good potential framework for adaptation priorities
- National systems require purposive effort and resources to integrate MEL
- Engagement of statistical offices, academia and think tanks help address both top down and bottom up dimensions to MEL
- Continuous dialogue needed for feedback loop (learning and readjusting for national and local realities)

# Thank you



## Adaptation monitoring and the importance of the Glasgow Sharm el Sheikh programme in building national systems

### INTRODUCTION

As we strive towards keeping global average temperature change preferably to 1.5°C, climate change is already impacting economies, livelihoods, and communities' well-being. The latest IPCC report underscores that despite progress in adaptation efforts across all sectors and regions, human-induced climate change has caused widespread losses and damages to nature and people, with the most vulnerable people and systems disproportionately affected (IPCC, 2022). The report notes soft limits to some human adaptation have been reached, but can be overcome by addressing financial, governance, institutional and policy constraints. However, hard limits have been reached in some ecosystems (e.g., coral reefs, local species extinctions, permafrost thaw of arctic ecosystems). Climate change impacts and risks are becoming increasingly complex and more difficult to manage - resulting in compounding "cascades" of risks across sectors and regions.

